## Tamarac Line, LLC

March 2, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Tamarac Line, LLC 115kV Transmission Line-Clay and Otter Tail County

Dear Dr. Haar:

In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act (PPSA), Minn. Stat. §216E.05, subd. 3, and Minn. R. 7850.5300, subp. 3, this letter, filed via eFiling, serves as the required notice to the Minnesota Public Utilities commission (Commission) that Tamarac Line, LLC intends to seek local review and approval to construct an approximately 8.5-mile, 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to serve as a feeder line for a less than 50 MW electric generation plant permitted under a separate permitting authority (see attached **Figure 1**).

## **Project Location**

The Project is located in the northwest corner of Otter Tail County along County Highway 23 and County Road 2 and enters into Clay County along 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue South where it terminates at previously permitted substation located near the intersection of 120<sup>th</sup> Ave. So. and County Road 125 (280<sup>th</sup> Street South). The proposed transmission line will be located in a rural area along public roadways and adjacent to agricultural lands.

## **Project Description**

Tamarac Line, LLC proposes to construct an approximately 8.5-mile, 115kV, single-circuit transmission line to serve as a feeder line for a less than 50MW electric generation plant permitted under a separate permitting authority. The southern end of the Project is located in Scambler Township, Otter Tail County, at the existing Tamarac substation located near the intersection of State Highway 34 and 183<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. From there it proceeds west along Hwy 34 for 0.75 miles then turns north along County Hwy 23 for approximately 5.3 miles until it intersects with County Hwy 2. From there it continues west along the south side of Hwy 2 for approximately 1.0 mile to the Clay County/Otter Tail County border. The line shifts to the north side of 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and continues west for approximately 2.0 miles where it terminates at the LWECS substation near the intersection of 120<sup>th</sup> Ave. So. and County Road 125 (280<sup>th</sup> Street South).

The proposed transmission line will be designed using single pole, horizontal or braced post structures composed of wood or weathering steel. The poles will be approximately 60-75 feet in height with a span length of approximately 300 to 400 feet.

## **Local Government Unit**

Clay County is the local government unit (LGU) for the Project. While the Project is required to be approved by the Commission pursuant to the PPSA, Minn. Stat. §216E.05 and Minn. R. 7850.5300, Tamarac Line, LLC seeks local review of the required environmental assessment and approval from Clay County via the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process. County staff has indicated they are prepared and willing to review and potentially grant a CUP for the Project. On February 29, 2012, Tamarac Line, LLC submitted a CUP application to Clay County for review and approval of the Project.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §216E.05, subd. 1(b) and Minn. R. 7850.5300, subp. 4, the County has been notified that it has 60 days to refer permitting the Project to the Commission. Additionally, Tamarac line, LLC will work with other applicable regulatory agencies to obtain any required Project specific permits regarding public land, water, and wetland crossing.

Tamarac Line, LLC provided notice to those persons on the Commission's General Notification List that a permit for the Project has been applied for from the County in accordance with Minn. R. 7850.5300, subp. 3. Questions for the County regarding this Project and the County CUP process should be directed to Tim Magnusson, Clay County Planning Director at (218) 229-5002 or me at (612) 331-1486 ext. 303 or paul.white@prcwind.com.

Sincerely,

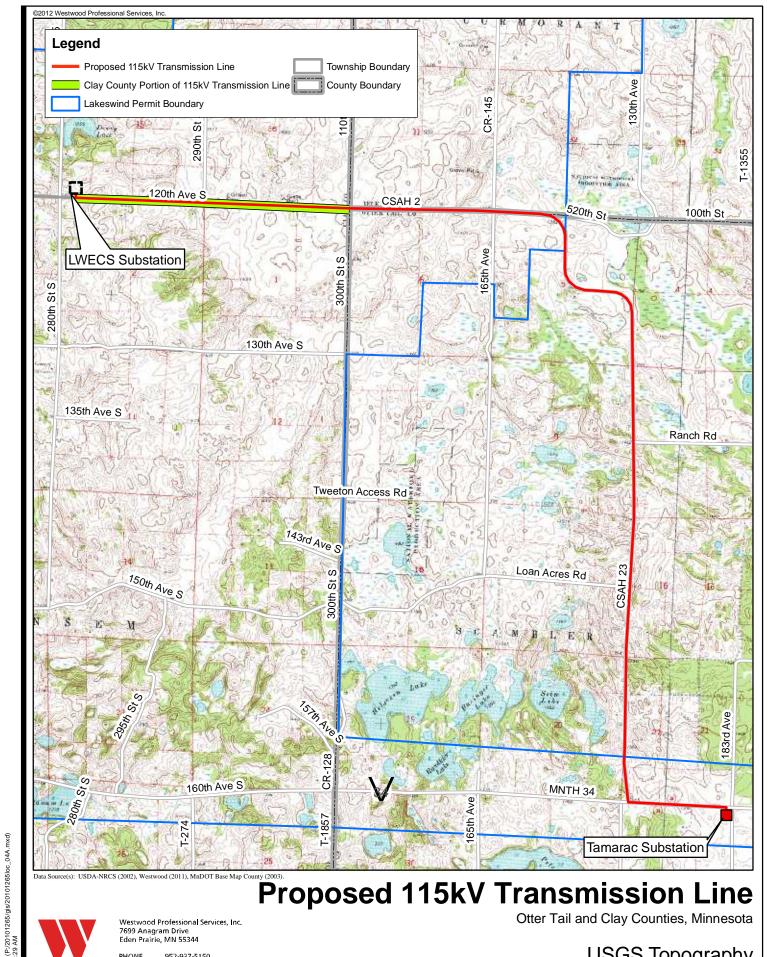
TAMARAC LINE, LLC

Paul White Chief Manager

Enclosure: Figure 1

Cc: Tim Magnusson, Clay County Planning Director-w/ encl.

Deborah Pile, Office of Energy Security-w/encl. Commission's General Notification List-w/encl.



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**USGS** Topography

Otter Tail and Clay Counties, Minnesota